

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-25 are currently pending. Claims 1, 11, 20, and 22 are amended; and Claim 27 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by the present amendment. No new matter is added.

Office Action Summary

Claims 1-25 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,384,868 to Oguma (hereafter "Oguma") in view of JP 2002-354064 to Maeda (hereafter "Maeda").

Interview Summary

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Sherman and Supervisory Examiner Awad for the courtesy of a personal interview extended to Applicant's representative on February 17, 2010, during which the outstanding rejections were discussed.

Applicant's representative explained the features of independent Claims 7, 14, 21, and 23, particularly pointing out the feature of basing a decision on a time point at which the display device receives a timestamp. It was agreed during the interview that the currently applied references fail to teach or suggest at least this feature of Claims 7, 14, 21, and 23. Thus, as indicated in the PTOL-413 which was issued by the Examiner, the arguments regarding Claims 7, 14, 21, and 23 were found to be persuasive.

Further, Applicant's representative explained the features of Claim 27, and it was agreed that incorporating the features of Claim 27 into independent Claims 1, 11, 20, and 22 would overcome the rejection based on the references of record.

Accordingly, the suggestions discussed during the interview are incorporated into the present amendment.

Rejection of Claims 7, 8, 14, 21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 7, 8, 14, 21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and submits that the applied references fail to teach or suggest all features recited in independent Claims 7, 14, 21, and 23. Indeed, it was agreed during the Interview that the applied references lack all features recited in these claims, as noted in the Interview Summary. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 7, 8, 14, 21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-6, 9-13, 15-20, 22, 24-25, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 1-6, 9-13, 15-20, 22, 24-25, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), with respect to amended independent Claims 1, 11, 20, and 22. Claims 1, 11, 20, and 22 are amended to incorporate the features previously recited in Claim 27, with Claim 27 consequently canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

As discussed during the Interview, the features of Claim 27 are not taught or suggested by the applied references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 11, 20, and 22 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the applied references. Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1-6, 9-13, 15-20, 22, 24-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Request to enter amendment

Lastly, this amendment is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.116 which after final rejection permits entering of amendments canceling claims, complying with any

requirement of form expressly set forth in a previous Office Action, or presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal. The present amendment amends the claims to include features previously recited in Claim 27 -- which was indicated during the Interview to define over the applied references. Therefore, this amendment does not raise new issues requiring further consideration and/or search. It is therefore respectfully requested that the present amendment be entered under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

Conclusion

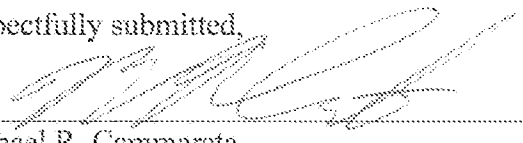
In view of the above amendment and the foregoing remarks, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact George Dolina, Reg. No. 63,654, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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